

Preliminary Amendment and Response

Applicant: Michael L. Rishel

Serial No.: 09/802,447

Filed: March 9, 2001

Docket No.: 10005084-1

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING WEB BROWSER TRAIL MARKERS

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is in Response to the Final Office Action mailed September 15, 2003. In that Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected. With this Response, claims 17 and 18 have been added. Claims 1-18 remain pending in the application and are presented for consideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,444,965 issued to Ha et al. ("Ha"), which relates to a microwave oven. Applicant submits that Ha does not disclose the inventions claimed in independent claim 1 and claim 4.

Independent claim 1 recites a web browser trail marker system comprising a computer, a memory operable to store a single reference to a web page, and a browser coupled to the memory and operable to execute on the computer. The browser includes a first button and a second button. Responsive to activation of the first button, the browser stores a reference to a currently accessed web page in the memory. Responsive to activation of the second button, the browser accesses the web page referenced by the reference stored in the memory. Applicant submits that the Ha reference fails to disclose Applicant's claimed invention of independent claim 1.

Ha discloses a microwave oven and controlling method for use with the Internet. A user downloads cooking data from the Internet using a computer 300, and sends the data to microwave oven 200 via data receiving section 140. (See column 4, lines 46-50; column 5, lines 1-7). The cooking data is saved to memory 150 of microwave oven 200. (Column 4, lines 17-20). A user can subsequently select the saved cooking data. The microwave oven includes a bookmark button 131 and a replacing button 134. Book mark button 131 stores the cooking data received from the Internet in the memory 150 of microwave oven 200 (Column 4, lines 17-19). Replacing button 134 replaces present cooking data in the memory 150 of the microwave oven 200 with the cooking data received from the Internet via the computer 330 (Column 4, lines 27-30 and 46-50).

Ha fails to disclose a web browser trail marker system as claimed by Applicant in independent claim 1. Ha fails to disclose **a computer, a memory operable to store a single**

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reference to a web page, and a browser coupled to the memory and operable to execute on the computer. Ha discloses a memory operable to store cooking data. Microwave oven 200 does not include a browser, but rather must be coupled to an external device such as a computer which has a web browser. Further, Ha fails to disclose **a browser comprising a first button and a second button, wherein the browser, responsive to activation of the first button, stores a reference to a currently accessed web page in the memory, and wherein the browser, responsive to activation of the second button, accesses the web page referenced by the reference stored in the memory.** Neither the microwave oven 200 nor the external device disclosed in Ha recite a browser comprising a first button and a second button as claimed by Applicant. Ha discloses a computer which downloads cooking data from the Internet. The microwave oven button 131 stores cooking data received from the computer to memory 150. Replacing button 134 replaces preset cooking data in memory 150 with cooking data received from the computer. As such, neither button 131 nor button 134 store a reference to a currently accessed web page in the memory, as claimed by Applicant. Further, neither button 131 nor button 134 are part of a browser whereupon activation of the second button, accesses the web page referenced by the reference stored in the memory.

Applicant believes that the Ha reference fails to disclose the limitations of independent claim 1. Allowance of independent claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1, which Applicant believes to be in allowable form. Accordingly, Applicant believes dependent claim 4 to also be allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Ha in view of secondary reference U.S. Patent No. 6,049,812 to Bertram et al. ("Bertram"). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the primary reference Ha reference as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of secondary reference U.S. Patent No. 6,449,765 issued to Ballard ("Ballard"). Each of claims 2, 3, and 5 depend from independent claim 1. Each of these rejections is primarily based upon the Ha reference for the reasons stated in rejecting claims 1 and 4, which as indicated above, Applicant believes to be in allowable form. For the same reasons as stated above in reference to claim 1, Applicant

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believes dependent claims 2, 3, and 5 in combination with independent claim 1 to be allowable over Ha, either alone or in further view of Bertram and Ballard.

Claims 6, 7 and 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the primary reference Ha in view of the secondary reference Ballard. Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the primary reference Ha and Ballard, and further in view of the secondary reference Bertram.

Independent claim 6 is directed to a method for providing web browser trail markers including providing a memory location operable to store a reference to electronic content, providing a user interface operably coupled to the memory location, and displaying a first electronic content in the user interface. The user interface includes a first button and a second button and is operable to display electronic content. The first electronic content is located at a first reference. The method of claim 6 further includes storing the first reference in the memory location in response to activation of the first button, displaying a second electronic content, which is located at a second reference, in the user interface, and displaying the first electronic content reference by the first reference stored in the memory location in response to activation of the second button. Independent claim 13 recites a computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for executing a similar method. Each of these rejections are based on the primary reference Ha. None of the cited references either alone or in combination teach or otherwise suggest the invention of independent claims 6 and 13 and the claims depending therefrom. For the same reasons stated in reference to independent claim 1, Applicant submits that the above rejection of independent claims 6 and 13 should be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 7-12 and 14-16 further define inventive features of Applicant's invention of independent claim 6 and independent claim 13, which Applicant believes to be in allowable form. Accordingly, Applicant believes these dependent claims are allowable over the art of record.

Added Claims

With this Response, Applicant has added claims 17 and 18 directed to a web browser. Applicant believes added claims 17 and 18 to be allowable over the art of record.

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In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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SED:jan

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 15 day of September, 2003.

By Steven E. Dicke
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